

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 3, 2015

The Special Council Meeting of the Council of the County of Kaua'i was called to order by Council Chair Mel Rapozo at the Council Chambers, 4396 Rice Street, Suite 201, Lihu'e, Kaua'i, on Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at 8:32 a.m., after which the following members answered the call of the roll:

Honorable Mason K. Chock
Honorable Ross Kagawa
Honorable Arryl Kaneshiro
Honorable KipuKai Kuali'i
Honorable JoAnn A. Yukimura
Honorable Mel Rapozo

Not Present: Honorable Gary L. Hooser

JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA, County Clerk: Six (6) present.

Council Chair Rapozo: Next item, please.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Councilmember Yukimura moved for approval of the agenda as circulated, seconded by Councilmember Kuali'i, and unanimously carried (*Pursuant to Rule No. 5(b) of the Rules of the Council of the County of Kaua'i, Councilmember Hooser was noted as silent (not present), but shall be recorded as an affirmative for the motion*).

Council Chair Rapozo: Motion carried. Next item.

INTERVIEW:

KAUA'I HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW COMMISSION:

- Lawrence Chaffin, Jr. – Term ending 12/31/2015
(*At-Large*)

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you. Mr. Chaffin, if you would like to take the seat. Thank you, Mr. Chaffin.

LAWRENCE CHAFFIN, JR.: Good morning Councilmembers. Thank you for letting me appear here.

Council Chair Rapozo: I know you have been here before.

Mr. Chaffin: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: On more than one (1) occasion.

Mr. Chaffin: Yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: We will just open it up to you for an opening statement of an overview of yourself, and then we will open it up for Council questions.

Mr. Chaffin: Thank you. My name is Larry Chaffin. I am an architect, a fellow of the American Institute of Architects, I think the only one on the island. I have been here twenty-two (22) years and take the design and implementation of our island very importantly. I am happy to be here to answer any questions. I do not know how much of my background you want. I graduated from Stanford University a while ago with a Bachelor of Arts and an advanced degree Bachelor of Architecture. I took a summer program at Harvard Graduate School of Design. As I said, I have been here twenty-two (22) years.

Council Chair Rapozo: Thank you very much. Let me apologize for mispronouncing your name. It is Chaffin, not Chaffin.

Mr. Chaffin: Oh, yes.

Council Chair Rapozo: I apologize. Thank you. Councilmember Chock.

Councilmember Chock: Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Chaffin. Thank you for all of your years of service to the Commissions, first I see the Cost Control Commission and then the Planning Commission. I just had a question in terms of your newest interest in the Historic Preservation Review Commission, and if there were any specific areas or locations that you find interesting and want to focus on through your time with the Commission.

Mr. Chaffin: The Historic Preservation Review Commission and its charges are very interesting because at least in one (1) case in my past, there was a guard station that needed to have a guard raised up in a platform and the Historic Preservation Review Commission said that the steps to the guard station had to remain. But the guard was handicapped and could not get up there. He needed a ramp and a wheelchair. That was in California and it went all the way up to the State Architect to get resolved. But there are some important situations that arise in preservation. I am thinking about the dispensary in Kōloa that I was slightly involved with. My feeling was we needed to keep the front exactly as it was, but utilize the back in a manner that could be used for offices rather than the little pigeon holes that were existing. That became quite a challenge. I guess the same thing could be said here about the steps coming up to the County Building. In my opinion, they are very dangerous because there are no handrails and yet, we are supposed to keep it as it was because it is a historic building. I think at least we could put a sign at the bottom of the stairs. If you do not go up the stairs, but come around, there is a ramp. Many people do not know that.

Councilmember Chock: Thank you. I think your background as an architect and planner will go far into preserving some of these areas. I appreciate it.

Mr. Chaffin: Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Interesting you brought that up about the sign. I was just speaking to the young lady in the back. She was coming up and looking for an elevator. I said, "Yes, we probably have to do better with signage in this building." So, you validated that. Thank you. Anyone else?

Mr. Chaffin: Or at least a handrail.

Council Chair Rapozo: Yes.

Mr. Chaffin: It is just very difficult.

Council Chair Rapozo: Well, I do not think you will have a problem getting appointed today. So, that might be your first mission on the Commission. Councilmember Yukimura.

Councilmember Yukimura: Yes. Thank you, Larry. Thank you for your willingness to serve once again, and to bring your insights and propose solutions to this dilemma that we have of wanting to preserve our historic buildings and sites, and yet make them safe and usable. It sounds like your background would look at alternatives that many do not consider in finding solutions to the conflict sometimes. I am glad that you will be doing that. Do you have any other particular areas that you would like to work on in this Commission?

Mr. Chaffin: Well, following the rules and regulations, and the need to have things in a safe condition is very important to me. Especially as you get older, your footing is less stable. Little kids can run up and down the front steps, but the older people have a much more difficult time. Even if there was a handrail, which then you get into the problem of modifying the existing or a little sign that you can walk around and come up the back ramp.

Councilmember Yukimura: I think there is a sign upfront, but I do not know. Maybe it is not visible enough, and I may be wrong. It is interesting. I should go check in this building that I frequent every day.

Mr. Chaffin: Right, but I doubt that you come up the front stairs every day.

Councilmember Yukimura: That is true. Okay. Well, that is great that you will pay attention to those things because we are an aging society too, that there is a greater percentage of those now sixty (60) and above, and projected to grow as well. So, those will be very relevant issues. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: Anyone else? If not, thank you very much, Mr. Chaffin.

Mr. Chaffin: Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve the island, the community, and the people that I so appreciate. Thank you.

Council Chair Rapozo: The Resolution is on the agenda today later this afternoon.

Mr. Chaffin: Okay.

Council Chair Rapozo: I just wanted to recognize former Chair Furfaro, who is the new Boards & Commissions Administrator here, sitting in the back. Thank you, Mr. Furfaro. Thank you. If there is no more discussion or public testimony, that will conclude the Special Council Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large loop followed by a series of smaller loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA
County Clerk

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